

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

Of the monoclonal antibodies selected, the anti-IL-5R monoclonal antibody known as H17N has high affinity for the antigen but does not inhibit the biological activity of IL-5. Consequently, despite the binding of IL-5 to its receptor, no inhibition is observed. The corresponding hybridoma was lodged with the Collection Nationale de Culture de Micro-organismes (CNCM), Institut Pasteur, 28 rue du Dr Roux, 75724 [[in]] Paris Cédex 15, France on 3 September 1998 under no. 1-2068. The anti-IL-5R monoclonal antibody known as H17N is of the IgG1 type.